

Affliction in Israel – Ruth and Naomi



Bible Readings –

Ruth Ch1 vs 1-18 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QifTCH_Mz1k

1John Ch4 vs 7-18 (see Sermon – part2).

Covid 19 and Affliction in Israel

Israel did not suffer from a virus such as we struggle with today, but famine was a common problem back in Naomi and Ruth's days – as it still is in the Middle East and Africa today. All savings withered away, spent on food for the family and for animals. Choices had to be made concerning where to migrate to, in order to survive, which journeys were essential and which were best delayed as well as spiritual questions such as "where is God in all this?" What does He want us to do? Where does He want us to go? What is He saying? Elimelech and Naomi thought good to leave Israel and seek out food in another land – however there are spiritual dangers in being away from the people of God for too long. Today we focus on the story of Ruth, who in turn was led to leave her people too – but to find a new, better way of life and a Living God to worship, which she saw reflected in the face and ways of Naomi. Does your life reflect the God of the Bible, and the Lord Jesus Christ? We are called to be the **salt of the earth** and the **light of the world** to those around us. Are we?

Hymn 1 - The Lord has Given a Land of Good Things

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gk1g34YN3T8>

Hymn2 - (There's Not a Friend like the Lowly Jesus)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2vcSKxJJd2A>

Hymn 3 - I Stand Amazed in the Presence, of Jesus the Nazerene

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= sgSowQ1rzY>

Hymn 4 - In Heavenly Love Abiding

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXc04P8d654>

Hymn 5 – O God of Bethel

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4bQ_z9n_jE

A song by Nichole Nordeman and Amy Grant

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdS8UYBDHsk>

3 Fold Amen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HW8TbRfcvUg>

(Many thanks and blessings to those who produce and share their resources on Youtube).